

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 5 with the following rewritten paragraph:

This object is achieved by the loudspeaker assembly according to the invention, which is provided with a frame, a diaphragm, and an electromagnetic driving unit comprising a magnet part and a driving coil part which is capable of magnetically cooperating with the magnet part, the coil part being translatable along a translation axis with respect to the magnet part, the magnet part comprises two permanent magnets and an intermediate magnetic pole element which is sandwiched between the permanent magnets when viewed along the translation axis of the coil part, the intermediate magnetic pole element having a pole face which is magnetically directed towards an inner face of the coil part, wherein the magnet part further comprises two external magnetic pole elements, the permanent magnets and the intermediate magnetic pole element being sandwiched between the external magnetic pole elements, which have pole faces which are magnetically directed towards an outer face of the coil part. It has been proven that the applied driving unit increases both the maximum driving force and the -3dB value of the driving force in the loudspeaker assembly according to the invention with respect to the prior art device. As known, the -3dB value of the driving force is the characteristic value for the linearity of the driving unit. The above-mentioned features and the above-described effects offer the possibility to build a high-power loudspeaker assembly which is flat and light in weight. Such an assembly is suitable for incorporation into shallow housings, particularly in the automotive field where, apart from the confined available ~~building-in~~ built-in space, the weight plays an important role.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 24 with the following rewritten paragraph:

The embodiment of the loudspeaker assembly in accordance with the invention shown in Fig. 5 includes a frame or chassis 202, a diaphragm 31, and the electromagnetic driving unit shown in Fig. 1. This driving unit, here indicated by 300, is attached to the frame 202. The frame 202 may be mounted to a wall 400 of a ~~building-in-built-in~~ space or of a loudspeaker box or enclosure. The diaphragm 31 is fixed to the coil part 21 of the driving unit 300 at its inner side, and at its outer side it is connected to the frame 202 by means of a compliant mounting rim 206, e.g. an omega-shaped rim of a flexible material, such as polyurethane or rubber. In this embodiment, the diaphragm 31 is suspended with respect to the frame 202 at a location somewhere mid-way the coil part 21 and the rim 206 by means of a suspension device 310 of the kind disclosed in WO 99/66763, which patent application is herewith incorporated by reference. The device 310 comprises a set of blade springs 312 positioned around the translation axis 23. The blade springs 312 are each constructed as one bent blade spring having two spring portions 312a and 312b. At one side the blade springs are fixedly connected to a stationary body, in this example the external element 14, and at the other side they are connected to the diaphragm 31. It is to be noted that instead of the suspension device 310 it is alternatively possible to use any other suitable suspension means, such as a conventional spider device, e.g. made of a corrugated textile fabric.

Please delete the Abstract of the invention in its entirety, and add the following new Abstract:

An electromagnetic driving unit includes a magnet part and a coil part that is translatable along a translation axis with respect to the magnet part. A diaphragm extends from the coil part in a substantially radial direction with respect to the translation axis of the coil part. The magnet part includes two permanent magnets and an intermediate magnetic pole element that is sandwiched between the permanent magnets when viewed along the translation axis of the coil part. In order to improve the efficiency of the driving unit, the permanent magnets and the intermediate magnetic pole element are sandwiched between two external magnetic pole elements, and all pole elements have pole faces that are magnetically directed towards the coil part.